



# CCM 2014 Testimony

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## ***GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION & ELECTIONS COMMITTEE***

March 3, 2014

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 92% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

### **HB 5049 "An Act Eliminating Unnecessary Government Regulation"**

The bill would amend or eliminate current state regulations. While CCM supports the State reviewing obsolete regulations, there are concerns with repealing, in section 33, 22a-69-1 to 69-7-4 and section 34, 22a-69 - 75. This would remove all noise authority currently regulated by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). CCM has concerns with repealing this authority as it would fall upon each municipality to address noise issues. This may impact towns and cities that do not have the resources or expertise to enforce to state specific standards.

In addition, the bill does not address other regulations that are burdensome to towns and cities. In December, following the Governor's request for burdensome regulations to be submitted, CCM provided a list (attached) of regulations that local officials have expressed should be amended or repealed. CCM would ask that the committee review the list, and amend HB 5049 to include them.

CCM asks the Committee to amend and then favorably report HB 5049.

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If you have any questions, please contact Mike Muszynski, Senior Legislative Associate, at [mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org](mailto:mmuszynski@ccm-ct.org) or (203) 500-7556.



## REVIEW OF STATE REGULATIONS

December 16, 2013

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 95% of Connecticut's population.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments regarding obsolete and burdensome regulations to towns and cities. The following regulations are among those that local officials have stated should be amended or repealed:

### Department of Administrative Services – Division of Construction Services

- Amend Section 29-292-7e of the State Fire Safety Code to relieve local fire marshals from having to inspect every three-family dwelling each year. Fire Marshals from the State's larger cities have stated that annual inspection of these properties is too burdensome, and in some cases where an illegal third family apartment is located, it exposes local officials to added liability if not inspected. Municipalities do not have the staff to perform this state mandate.
- Update the State Building Code as they relate to newer building standards to identify potential efficiencies for municipalities by updating the state building.

### Department of Education

- Amend Sections 10-145d-582 to 10-145d-587 of the State Board of Education regulations to modify certification requirements for school superintendents to permit school districts to choose qualified superintendents from non-traditional, but relevant management and other backgrounds.

### Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection

- Amend regulations to require adequate preparation and enforcement measures to minimize vibration, noise, and adverse impacts on nearby property caused by explosives and blasting agents. The regulations should be amended in consultation with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

### Department of Energy and Environmental Protection – Siting Council

- Eliminate the current regulation that requires municipalities to report to the Siting Council annually the location of telecommunication towers within their town or city. The reporting responsibility should be directed at tower owners rather than the host municipality.

#### Department of Public Health

- Amend regulations to allow local officials the option to decide their EMS provider and the terms of contracts, particularly to change companies that fail to adequately provide adequate services.
- Modernize current public health laws to reflect the mission and essential services provided by local health officials. Current practice mandates that local health departments perform 8 basic public health services, outlined in Public Health regulations, Section 19a-76-2. It should be amended to more accurately reflect the current practices and services provided by public health departments.
- Amend regulations to streamline testing requirements for the Emergency Medical Technician training certification process. In particular, eliminate redundant and frequent testing requirements.
- Amend regulations regarding non transient water supplies to make it easier for the development of these systems, and eliminate standards that are an undue burden on these supplies.
- Amend current regulations to provide that suspended Emergency Medical Technicians, or those prohibited from actively treating patients, should not be allowed to also be Emergency Medical Technician instructors.
- Amend the current regulations that exempt school-based day care centers from certain requirements to also include daycare centers operated by municipal recreational departments.
- Repeal the following five (5) Public Health Code Regulations as the governance is duplicated under 19-13-B42: Sanitation of places dispensing food or beverages.
  - 19-13-B40: Sanitation of Food, Fair Grounds, Ice Plants and Trailer Coaches
  - 19-13-B41: Sanitation of public fair grounds, horse shows, horse races, and automobile races
  - 19-13-B44: Sanitation of trailer coaches
  - 19-13-B48: Itinerant Food Vending and Catering
  - 19-13-B49: Catering and food service

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